

# Cyclone fizzles out in rain

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15 lives, injuring scores and rendering many homeless in different districts.

Bhola, Patuakhali, Barguna, Pirojpur and Noakhali districts were the most affected, according to the National Disaster Response Coordination Centre (NDRCC).

The centre said seven people had died in Barguna, two in Bhola and one in Chittagong in the course of the cyclone. Our correspondents reported five more deaths -- three in Patuakhali and two in Bhola.

Some among the deceased were identified as Abul Kashem, 75, Parvez, 6, and Nipa, 10, of Bhola, Syed Ali, 75, Abir, 6, and Chan Mia, 70, of Barguna and Siraj Akanda, 80, Rezia Begum, 50, and Ishaq Mia, 70, of Patuakhali.

People living on remote shoals at the Meghna estuary were never safe enough to escape a cyclone impact.

## New Zealand plans to woo more foreign students

AFP, Wellington

New Zealand yesterday announced a multi-million-dollar marketing drive to attract more foreign students -- especially from Asia -- to its universities.

Tertiary Education Minister Steven Joyce said the government had committed NZ\$40 million (US\$33 million) in its new budget to promote New Zealand in key markets such as China, India, Southeast Asia and South America.

New Zealand has eight universities and Joyce said almost 100,000 overseas students were enrolled in tertiary institutions last year, supporting about 32,000 jobs and contributing NZ\$2.0 billion to the economy.

He said the government's goal was to more than double the international education sector by 2025.

"Our high-quality education sector, together with the lifestyle experience that New Zealand provides for international students, is a combination few other countries can match," he said.

Many of the offshore chars in Barisal-Bhola regions were also washed over by high waves.

Disaster Management and Relief Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali said the number of casualties was very low because the government had moved around one million people in 15 vulnerable districts to 3,296 cyclone shelters well ahead of the cyclone hitting the Bangladesh coast.

While briefing reporters at his secretariat office yesterday, he also said the government had sent 5,000 tonnes of rice and Tk 10 crore in aid to 15 deputy commissioners of the districts concerned.

"To tackle the aftermath, we kept ready 19 helicopters, 22 vessels of the Navy and four aircraft," he added. The fury of the cyclone snapped road, water and air communications in offshore areas. Telecommunications also remained disrupted at

A few cracks have developed on dams at Char Nelin and Char Motahar in Mujibnagar union and rainwater has been entering the lowlands of the area.

Talking to The Daily Star, Anisur Rahman, project implementation officer of Charfasson Upazila Control Room, said the cyclone lashed Char Kukri Mukri, a remote island of Bhola, around 10:00am, causing much damage to property.

The cyclone struck

Monpura upazila around 12:30pm, according to the control room sources.

### Patuakhali

Around 9:00am yesterday, Mahasen had landfall at Kuakata in Patuakhali after journeying over 1,700 kilometres from its place of origin in the Bay of Bengal.

At least 100 people were injured and thousands affected in different upazilas, said upazila bhoo officer Md Liakat Ali.

Shanti Ranjan, district relief and rehabilitation officer, said at least 70,419 people had been affected, 7,540 houses destroyed and 18,238 houses damaged partially in the cyclone yesterday, reports our Patuakhali correspondent.

The official said around 1,09,332 people took shelter in 298 shelters in the district. The authorities were able to provide electricity services on a limited scale at 6:10pm in Patuakhali town,

but services have remained snipped elsewhere in the district since Wednesday night.

The district met office has recorded 243mm rainfall between Wednesday night and yesterday noon.

Robi crops on nearly 50,000 hectares of land have completely been destroyed and around 200 fish enclosures have gone under water.

Road communications with the rest of the country remains suspended as a pontoon of Hajipur ferry ghat on Patuakhali-Kuakata road has been submerged by floodwaters.

Kalapara upazila is the worst affected area in Patuakhali, said Amitabh Sarkar, deputy commissioner of the district.

### PM'S CALL

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has called upon the people of the country to offer special prayers at mosques and other religious institutions to express gratitude to the Almighty for saving the country from devastation.

"We were seriously concerned about the cyclone. Now it's over. I express my gratitude to Almighty Allah, who has saved us from the devastating strike of the cyclone," she said while addressing a meeting of the ruling Awami League-led 14-party combine at her Gono Bhaban residence.

She said the government had made all-out preparations to deal with the post-cyclone situation.

## 15 kids

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The 22 victims, most of them apparently Myanmar nationals, had set off for Malaysia from Teknaf on Wednesday, Didar said.

More bodies were still floating near the coast, said police quoting locals.

When asked why so many children were there, police said they might have wanted to go to their fathers who had already gone to Malaysia.

## Quasem faces 14 charges

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Mojahed was charged with killing intellectuals but no such charges were brought against Quasem, even though the book Genocide '71, used as evidence against Mojahed, says Quasem and Mojahed issued joint statements following which the killings of intellectuals commenced.

Expressing concern, eminent war crimes researcher Shahriar Kabir told The Daily Star, "A quarter in the administration, loyal to the Jamaat-e-Islami, has been trying to save Quasem for the last three years."

"We are not surprised that such weak charges were submitted to save Quasem," he said, adding, "The administration is infiltrated by the Jamaat-e-Islami. They are trying to see to it that Quasem is not given capital punishment."

When contacted over phone, Prosecutor Zead Al Malum refrained from making any comment on the charges submitted.

Malum around yesterday noon submitted the formal charges to the registrar's office of the tribunal and included the 200-page investigation report, witnesses' statements, seizure list and documents.

Among the 14 charges, two

charges were pressed for the killing of eight people. The remaining charges were for torture, arson, looting and abduction between November and December 16, 1971.

Malum told the media that under Quasem's leadership and with the help of Pakistani army, Al-Badr and Razakar members set up torture centres at Dalm Hotel.

### CHARGES IN BRIEF

Charges 1-10 and 13 and 14 were brought against Quasem in connection with abduction, torture and detaining of 27 people in Chittagong and setting fire to homes and shops.

Charge-11 read: One Jasim along with five unidentified people was abducted some time after Eid-ul-Fitr of 1971. They were detained and tortured at Dalm Hotel at Andorkilla and later killed.

According to charge-12, Jahangir Alam Chowdhury, Ranjit Das Prokash Latu and Tantu Sen were kidnapped sometime in November, 1971. Latu and Tantu were later killed and their bodies were never found.

The investigation agency began its probe into the alleged war crimes of

Quasem on July 26, 2010, and submitted its report to the prosecution on May 6, 2013.

The coordinator of the investigation agency Abdul Hannan Khan on May 6 had said due to "lack of logistic support" it took a long time to complete the probe.

The probes against Mojahed, Muhammad Kamaruzzaman Jamaat chief Motiur Rahman Nizami, and its leader Abdul Quader Mollah also began in July 2010.

Interestingly, the tribunals have already handed down capital punishment to Kamaruzzaman and Sayeede, life term to Mollah and the war crimes case against Mojahed is at the closing argument stage, but the case against Quasem is yet to begin.

Quasem was arrested on June 17, 2012, after International Crimes Tribunal-1 issued an arrest warrant against him.

Earlier yesterday, Prosecutor Zahid Iman finished placing opening statement in the war crimes case against former Awami League leader Mobarak Hossain.

Tribunal-1 fixed May 20 for recording prosecution witnesses' testimony in the case.

## Close shave as it lacked eye

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People of Chittagong and Cox's Bazar, who were on alert to face the cyclone on the basis of previous predictions, heaved a sigh of relief.

Compared to other coastal areas, there was no cyclonic impact in that region with the least amount of rainfall.

In Dhaka, areas ranging from Gulshan to Kalabagan to Shantinagar went under knee-deep water for a while. The Met office recorded 77 millimetres of rainfall in the 24 hours till 6:00pm yesterday.

Explaining why Mahasen had brought in so much rain, director Shah Alam said, "Usually, the cyclone generates a lot of rain when it does not have an eye. A cyclone develops an eye as it becomes stronger or severe -

- generating lesser rain."

Whereas the 2007 cyclone Sidr came with the highest wind speed of 260 km per hour, Mahasen with winds of 100 kmph at its peak hit Khepupara.

Meanwhile, heavy rainfall triggered by the cyclone left streets and localities in many regions of the country inundated.

In Dhaka, areas ranging from Gulshan to Kalabagan to Shantinagar went under knee-deep water for a while. The Met office recorded 77 millimetres of rainfall in the 24 hours till 6:00pm yesterday.

During this period, the office recorded 244 mm rainfall, the highest of the day, in Patuakhali, 232 mm in Khepupara, 188 mm in Barisal and 121 mm in Bhola.

Sitakunda, where the

cyclone had fizzled out, received only 18 mm rainfall.

As the weather cleared up, the Chittagong Port Authorities, Shah Amanat International Airport and Cox's Bazar Airport have resumed their operation from yesterday evening.

But the weather office advised the maritime ports of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Mongla to keep hoisted local cautionary signal No. Three -- downgrading their earlier signal from No. Seven and Five respectively.

All fishing boats, trawlers and marine vessels over the north Bay had been advised to remain in shelter till noon today, and proceed with caution till further notice, said the Met office bulletin.

## 5 Indian restaurants among Asia's 101 best

Taiwan eatery tops, says poll

REUTERS, Tokyo

A Taiwanese eatery famed for its dumplings was crowned Asia's best restaurant, while restaurants in Beijing claimed the lion's share of spots in the top ten of a new survey of the food-obsessed region's best dining.

Din Tai Fung in the Taiwanese capital Taipei was ranked number one in the inaugural "101 Best Restaurants in Asia" list, released on Thursday by the US-based food website The Daily Meal, which does similar polls in the United States and Europe.

"Ultimately we chose ... a place best-known for doing one thing absolutely perfectly," said Colman Andrews, editorial director of The Daily Meal, adding that they were aware their selection of the restaurant, which has spun off into an international chain, would be controversial.

Half of the top ten restaurants were in Beijing, with Duck de Chine - noted for its Peking duck - at second place, and the Chinese-style nouvelle cuisine Green T. House at third.

"Our feeling is that Shanghai has had a good reputation as a restaurant city for some time, due both to a strong regional cuisine and the early incursions of Western celebrity chefs ... but that Beijing is definitely catching up," said Andrews.

"It's an imperfect analogy, but in a way the culinary contrast between the two mirrors that between New York City and Washington DC. The former is more famous as a food city, but Washington increasingly offers serious competition - usually just with a little less fanfare."

Food critics, writers and long-term foreign residents in Asia, among others, voted on a list of restaurants pulled together over a six-month nomination period, considering cuisine, style, value and overall buzz, to select the top 101.

Beijing's Temple Restaurant was fourth and Capital M, a modern Australian restaurant overlooking Tiananmen Square, was fifth. Another Beijing establishment, Dali Court, hit seventh.

Varq, in the Indian capital New Delhi, came in sixth. The top ten was rounded out by Hong Kong's venerable Lung King Heen and Michel Bras TOYA, Japon, a Michelin three-star restaurant on Japan's northernmost island of Hokkaido.

Andrews said Asia's flourishing restaurant scene was developing some interesting new trends. Five Indian restaurants made the list, including one in Bangalore.

"India, indeed, will continue to develop in restaurant terms - and I hope not entirely through the efforts of the top hotel chains - but I also think South Korea shows great promise, and frankly I'm surprised that more of its top restaurants didn't place on our list."

The top Korean restaurant was The Byeokje Galbi in Seoul, which came in at 30.

The list included restaurants in Cambodia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Macau, South Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam and can be found here: <http://www.thedailymeal.com/101-best-restaurants-asia>.

## লিগ্যাল নোটিশ

এতদ্বারা সর্বসাধারণের অবগতি জন্য জানানো হাইতেহে যে, আমার মোয়াকেল জনাবা তাসলিমা ইসলাম, শামী-জনাব নজরুল ইসলাম, মাতা- জনাবা মহাতাজ বেগম, ফ্লাট নং- ৩৫/এ, রোড নং- ১, ধানমন্ডি আ/এ, ঢাকা-১২০৫, নিম্ন তক্কিল বার্ষিক সম্পত্তি কর্তৃর জন্য উহার মালিক মেসার্স বি.জে. প্রপার্টিজ লিং, টিকানা- ফ্লাট নং- ৩-এ/৫, রোড নং- ৬, ডেন নং- ৩, গুলশান, ঢাকা-এর পক্ষে উহার ব্যবহাগনা পরিচালক জনাব সাকুরা বিয়াজু এর সহিত বায়ানক হইয়াছে।

বায়ানকৃত সম্পত্তির তফসিল পরিচয়

গুলশান আবাসিক এলাকার হোল্ডিংস প্লট নং ৪/বি-১, রোড নং- ৬৭, জমির পরিমাণ ৫ (পাঁচ) কার্টা ১ (এক) ছাটক ২৫ (পাঁচশ) বর্গফুট বা ০৮৪১ (আঠাশ একাত্তি শির্ষ) অবস্থাত্বে, মোজা- সাবেক ভোলা শামাইর, হাল গুলশান আবাসিক এলাকা, জিলা- ঢাকা, যাহা রাজধানী উন্নয়ন কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক শীকৃত সম্পত্তি এবং যাহার জোত নং- ৯৩, এসি ল্যান্ড- গুলশান সার্কেল যাহার নামজারী মোকদ্দমা নং- ২২৯৪, তাং- ১১-০৬-২০১২।

বায়ানকৃত সম্পত্তির টোচেনী

উত্তরে- প্লট নং ৪/এ, দক্ষিণে- রাস্তা, পূর্বে- জনাবা আফরোজা বেগম, পশ্চিমে- রাস্তা।

উক্ত সম্পত্তি কাহারো কোনোপ দাবী বা আপত্তি থাকিলে কিংবা উক্ত সম্পত্তি কোন ব্যাংক বা আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট দায়বস্থ বা রেহান থাকিলে অত্র নোটিশ পর